

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-18 and 24-42 are in the application.

Claims 1, 5-11, 14, 18, and 24 are amended. Claims 27-42 are new.

Claims 1 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Without acceding to the propriety of the rejection, and indeed with complete reservation of rights, applicants have amended these claims to eliminate the allegedly indefinite language.

Claim 1 now recites: "...automatically logging a history of object browsing using a browser, comprising at least logging path information defining a path dependent object state"

Claim 24 now recites: "...automatically storing a history of browser use, said history comprising path information necessary for defining a path of at least one path dependent object, said state dependent object having an associated universal resource locator...."

It is expressly noted that, in each case, the object state is path dependent, meaning that a simple expression defining a resource location (e.g., URL), may be insufficient to fully define the object. The path dependent object state requires establishing a correct set of antecedents before it can be re-established. The objected-to language was redundant and removed, without any narrowing of the claims thereby.

Claims 1, 3-18, and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Esakov et al., US 2002/0013834. Esakov et al. apparently provides an enhanced history function for a browser. However, there appears to be no teaching or suggestion that the objects represented are "path dependent". Thus, the object is

represented by a pathless universal resource locator. See generally Esakov et al. paras [0003]-[0015] and [0055]-[0076].

The examiner cites Figure 13 and the following paragraphs of Esakov et al. to support his position:

[0056] Pages may be viewed using an application referred to as a browser. A browser accesses a server to obtain pages to be displayed. A page may be segmented into separate portions referred to as frames. Frames may be visible and they may not be visible. Thus, for example, on a page, there may be two frames which are not visible to the user and a third frame that is visible. Frames are useful because they allow applications such as JavaScript and Java to be loaded into HTML pages without taking screen space. Data can be shared across frames using browser languages such as JavaScript and Java.

[0098] In the first exemplary embodiment described above, icons associated with pages are automatically added to the map when the corresponding pages are visited on the web. This is only one option. Another option exists where a page may be visited, but this page is not automatically added to the map. Thus, a history table is maintained. This is shown in FIG. 4. This history table shows, in chronological order (for example) the various pages which have been visited by the user regardless of whether they are on the map. Furthermore, in this history table, certain pages may be decorated to indicate whether or not corresponding icons appear on the map. This operation is illustrated as follows. If a search engine is being used, the user may not want to show the query which is used or the various hits which are obtained by the search engine if these hits are not helpful to the user. Thus, after the fact, i.e. after pages have been visited and their associated data has been placed in this history table, the user may selectively add this information to the map on an individual or group basis.

[0099] As illustrated in Table 1, each line in the history table is decorated based upon whether the corresponding URL is included in the map. An obvious extension of this is to include additional decorations based upon attributes of the node in the map, such as whether there is a note, or whether the node has been marked as "done."

It is first noted that Figure 13 appears to show a browsing path, but it does not teach or suggest that any object represented on the screen is itself path-dependent, that is, each object represented can presumably be recalled by a simple path-independent URL. The cited text reinforces the interpretation that the stored objects are represented by universal resource locators, and if the web page content is path dependent, then the user will have to manually recreate the respective path to recreate the path-dependent object.

In contrast, the present invention provides that the path dependent object state be preserved. For example, claim 1 provides: "...logging path information defining a path dependent object state ... wherein the path dependent object state is adapted to be

recalled in response to selection of said display element representing said path, to provide path information defining the state of the path dependent object.”

Claim 9 provides: “means for display of the history as one or more display hyperlinks, at least one of said display hyperlinks representing a plurality of user actions which together define a path dependent object state.” (Note that a single hyperlink represents a set of plural user actions which together define a path dependent object state; the claim is open to allow a plurality of such hyperlinks, and additionally hyperlinks which do not meet this criterion.)

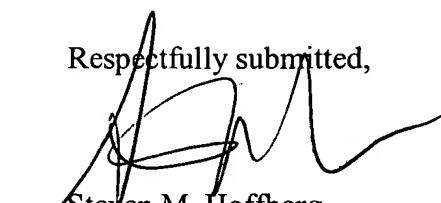
Claim 24 provides: “automatically generating a sequence of states to define the path dependent object.”

It is therefore seen that the present invention transcends Esakov et al., and provides an additional level of functionality neither taught nor suggested by that reference.

It is further noted that the Examiner has apparently misconstrued the dependent claim limitations, and it is respectfully requested that the examiner give full credence to the language presented, and further to apply the reference only for the teachings expressly enabled thereby. The rejection presented by the Examiner fails to describe in sufficient detail how Esakov et al. literally meets or enables the recited claim elements, except by reference to paragraphs whose interpretation is disputed. While the “[e]xaminer has full latitude to interpret each claim in the broadest reasonable sense”, this latitude does not permit a construction which fails to give patentable weight to the limitations explicitly set forth, or to broadly interpret the reference beyond its disclosure.

For example, claims 18 and 25 include the word "supplemental"; and claim 26 defines a display of commercial subsidy elements not browsed by a user. The alleged analogs from Esakov et al. are intrinsic and not supplemental.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the claims are patentable over Esakov et al.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven M. Hoffberg
Reg. No. 33,511

MILDE & HOFFBERG, LLP
10 Bank Street - Suite 460
White Plains, NY 10606
(914) 949-3100

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